

**SB 851** 

Frederick County Board of Education – Vacancies

**County Position: SUPPORT** 

Date: March 3, 2021

Committee: Education, Health &

**Environmental Affairs** 

Frederick County Executive Jan Gardner urges your **SUPPORT** for Senate Bill 851 – Frederick County Board of Education – Vacancies, a local bill that has the full support of the Frederick County Delegation.

Board of Education Members are among the handful of county public, elected officials in Frederick County that make local policy and budget decisions which impact the daily lives of our citizens. The engagement and participation of our citizens in exercising their civic rights, which includes the basic right to choose those who govern, is critical to effective and responsive local government.

County Executive Gardner supports the provisions in the proposed <u>local bill</u> that:

- Provides for an immediate appointment to fill an unexpected vacancy of a Board
  of Education member, honoring the letter and intent of the County's Charter and
  the codified role and responsibility of the County Executive;
- Reflects the importance of and our commitment to civic participation by providing for an election to permanently replace a seat vacated in the middle of a Board of Education Member's term; and
- Structures this election in a way that is not burdensome to the County taxpayers or to candidates running for a vacated seat.

Frederick County Executive Gardner urges **SUPPORT** for Senate Bill 851.